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The Socialist

To Organize the Slaves
of Capital to Vote Their
Own Emancipation

Ninth Year--No. 422

Seattle, Washington, Saturday, May 22, 1909

Price Five Cents

A BOOMERANG

Trustee Printing Company Falsely Charged -- Allied
Printing Trades Council Defends Publishers
of "The Socialist" as First Class
Union Firm

We request all Union men to read the following documents and see for themselves who are their friends. This base attack on "The Trustee Printing Co." was made before the Central Labor Council, with the plain intent to injure its high standing with the Unions in Seattle. The result is the splendid endorsement given below. Manager Ault's reply to Robbins and Ball, expelled members of the Socialist Party, is crushing and brings out facts showing how The Trustee Printing Co. stood by Organized Labor when no one else dared to do so.

Robbins' Attack

"The Union and the Union Label."

It seems to me that one of the basic principles of organized labor must be to keep pure and unsullied that emblem which it places before the public, stamped on every article of the product of men, women and even children who know and realize the interdependence of the laboring class one upon another. I refer to the Union Label.

This label should be a guaranty to every one that the article which bears it is the result of the labor of those who believe in and practice the principles of Unionism.

This label is a privilege given by an association or council of any craft to protect that portion of its craft who have obligated themselves to maintain an agreed wage and union conditions, and at the same time it should be a guaranty to every member of any other craft that it is the product of those who believe in the principles of unionism. These labels cannot be too jealously guarded, but yet we often see the privileges grossly abused, more especially in the printing craft. Dumps that call themselves printing offices, their managers and operators who never know the first principles of unionism but by misrepresentation, get hold of the union label and exploit it for all that it is worth, and they care nothing for the union scale of wages, nor the principles for which the label should stand. They are not able to hold a job in a truly union shop. They are scabs hiding behind the label, posing as advocates of unionism, while violating every principle of unionism.

I have seen the man who never belonged to a union and who had never been brought to see the benefits of unionism, but who would spurn to take the place of a striking man, decry as a scab, by the scab in the union, who would boast of having worked for one-fourth of the union wage. The scab outside the union, if such he be, you can watch, you know where to find him and you don't expect much else of him, in fact there is no reason to be deceived in him, but the man who hides behind the union label and violates every principle of unionism is a scab, and dangerous to organized labor, and should not be allowed the benefit and privilege the union label confers upon him. As a rule this man will underbid all who would maintain union wages and union principles, because he has nothing at stake and can work in a lot of scab shops like himself, at less than one-fourth union wages. Those who patronize the union label and those who maintain union shops have a right to demand that scab dumps are not allowed to hide behind the union label.

Labor unions and members of organized labor should watch these dumps. I would especially call the attention of organized labor to a printed statement of the Trustee Printing Company, claiming to have done a business of over \$5,500 in eleven months, paying its manager \$250 for eleven months' work, and boasting of having several jobs for other unions, which I am informed, it got because it was the "low" bidder. I would ask these unions if they believe a truly union shop could compete with a dump paying \$250 a year to its manager? And I would especially like to ask those unions who are patronizing this scab dump to notice the affidavit attached.

This Trustee Printing Company will print what no other shop in this city will print and for less money. Organized labor and the Allied Printing Trades Council should see to it that this scab dump is no longer allowed to hide behind the union label.

J. C. ROBBINS,
Member Federal Union 11,587.

Ball's Affidavit

I, A. G. Ball, being first duly sworn upon oath, deposes and says that on or about the 30th of December, 1907, I worked for the Trustee Printing Company, the same carrying the union label and supposed to be a union shop, and at that time I helped to run off printed matter for an association of building contractors who were endeavoring to break up the unions, and that on two or more occasions I called the attention of Harry Ault, the manager of the Trustee Printing Company, to the fact that that was not right for a union shop.

He replied that we must keep it quiet and get the job out of the way as soon as possible, as we needed the money.

A. G. BALL,
Subscribed and sworn to before me this 14th day of April, A. D. 1909.
C. E. PIPER,
A Notary Public for the State of Washington, residing at Seattle.

Ault's Reply

Allied Printing Trades Council, Seattle.

Gentlemen:

I have before me a letter read at the meeting of the Central Labor Council of Seattle and vicinity last Wednesday evening and referred to me for explanation by Mr. McCullough of your body.

An explanation of the letter properly begins with an explanation of the animus behind it. If the writers had been honestly endeavoring to protect the label they would have taken the matter up with the proper authorities, the Allied Printing Trades Council, and presented their grievance to you. Since their entire purpose was to embarrass and discredit the Trustee Printing Company, that was best served by the reading of the letter and affidavit to the representatives of the various unions assembled in the Central Labor Council.

In the first place, the matter is the outgrowth of a more or less personal squabble in the Socialist Party in which your body is not interested. Suffice to say that Mr. Robbins is a personal and political enemy of "The Socialist," the paper we publish, and of myself because of my connection with that paper and my position in the Socialist party. As Mr. Robbins and his associates have been defeated in every move they have attempted to make in the party, they needs must drag the affair into the unions in an effort to vent their spleen and satisfy personal grievances.

Mr. Ball is, or was, a member of the Printing Pressmen's Assistants' Union, in arrears for dues for several years. Under an interpretation of the label agreement given us by Mr. Blaine some two years ago, when pressmen were scarce in the town, he was given work in our office, on permit from the Feeders' Union. I immediately made every effort to have him square up his card and get right with the union, but for some reason he made no effort to do so. After he had been at work for some months, a committee from your body visited this office and requested that Mr. Ball be discharged, offering him the alternative of joining the Pressmen's Union, but as he had not and would not square up his Portland card, that union would not accept him. At this Mr. Ball became greatly incensed and argued with me for hours in an effort to have me throw out the Allied Printing Trades Label and put in the I. W. W. label. In accordance with the request of your committee Mr. Ball was discharged and a member of the Pressmen's Union took his place.

Now, as to the letter. So far as I can see, it contains only two definite propositions—they can hardly be called charges—first, I, as manager, received only \$250 for wages in eleven months; and second, we did printing for an organization having for its purpose the destruction of labor unions.

In regard to the first "charge," I will say that in the report referred to, in order to explain a discrepancy of about \$250 between the reported receipts and the reported expenditures, the amount was charged up to the manager as wages and the remark—jokingly—made that that was not much for eleven months. As Mr. McCullough, Secretary of the Typographical Union, can testify, I have paid dues on the full scale ever since he has been Secretary and the same procedure was followed previously to that. While I have not always been paid in full each week in cash, the amount stands as a charge on the company's books and as a lien on the company's property.

It is perfectly true that we do printing that no other printer in the city will do. When the Butchers' Union was on strike in Tacoma and the Tacoma Central Labor Council was boycotting Carstens Packing Company products, the Business Agent of the Tacoma Central Labor Council was compelled to come to our office to have the unfair list printed, as the Tacoma and other Seattle printers were afraid they would be fined for contempt of court if they did the work. Only last fall, when work was a little slack, we printed and distributed at our own expense some ten thousand copies of the unfair list of the Central

Labor Council of Seattle and vicinity—another thing that other printers would be afraid to do. Also, at or about the time stated by Ball, we printed for the Builders' Exchange of Seattle, contracts, constitutions, and some other matter. It came to us in the regular course of our business and was turned out with no attempt at secrecy and no thought of wrongdoing. The Archer Linotype Company did the linotype work and union operators set the matter. We cannot see any difference between doing this work and doing work for the A. Y. P. E. or any other unfair concern. If such distinctions were made there would be a great many union printers hunting jobs.

That we are underbidding other printers is an unqualified falsehood, as our records will show, and as dozens of disappointed "job peddlers" will testify.

In conclusion, I ask the indulgence of your body for this long reply, feeling that while the matter is of little importance to the Allied Printing Trades, it vitally affects the Trustee Printing Company in its friendly relations with various unions, and trust that this letter will be forwarded to the Central Labor Council as a part of your report on this matter.

Assuring you of my unwavering loyalty to the cause of Union Labor, I am, Yours fraternally,

E. B. AULT,
Manager Trustee Printing Co.

Report of Printing Trades Section

To Officers and Members Central Labor Council.

Ladies and Gentlemen:

Your Printing Trades Section beg to submit the following report referred to them two weeks ago concerning the Trustee Printing Co.

The communication was referred to the Allied Printing Trades Council to investigate, and Mr. E. B. Ault, manager of the firm in question, appeared before them in person and by letter, a copy of which is enclosed herewith.

We find that the charges, though vague in character, are the result of differences growing out of trouble in the ranks of the Socialist Party, in which both J. C. Robbins, who signed the letter, and Mr. Ault, manager of the Trustee Printing Co., are or were members.

We further find that the charges are not supported by any evidence or reason other than the one given above.

In view of this fact, and in order to remove the stigma that has sought to be placed on this firm by the maker of these charges, we recommend that the letter of Mr. Ault to the Allied Printing Trades be read and that the Central Labor Council show the finding of this Section to be that there was no merit in the charges.

PRINTING TRADES SECTION.

Geo. Listman,
R. M. McCullough,
Typographical,
Francis Jefferson,
Pressmen,
Geo. T. McNamara,
W. J. Houser,
A. P. Holland,
Typographical.

Reactionary "Socialism"

The following telegram from Paris appears in the Dailies. It shows how a scientific observer of American conditions, though from the capitalist viewpoint, can see more clearly than some Proletarians, even than some Socialists.

Ferreros' analysis agrees exactly with that in "Revolutionary Socialism and Reform Socialism," printed in "The Socialist" last week. The great Middle Class reaction against the Trusts now progressing in the United States, has absolutely no relation to Socialism. Bryan and Roosevelt and La Follette and Gompers, and all the rest who are accused of tending toward Socialism because they seek to curb the Trusts by National Control or National Ownership are in fact the representatives of the "Puritanical Traditions" of individualism and of Jacksonian "democratic institutions." They look back to the good old days of free competition when there was more of the modern "Restraint of



"BILL" HAYWOOD

Now touring the State of Washington and telling the story of the great Colorado-Idaho conspiracy. Hear him at Dreamland Rink, Seattle, June 6th.

Are You On the Job?

We are feeling pretty good, here in the office. For the past couple of weeks things have been coming our way and, let me whisper it, the reason this issue is only two pages is because we have so much job printing on hand we couldn't get the work done.

Next week there will be four pages with Gustav Bang's great articles on Anarchism complete in one issue.

Get in your orders now for Haywood's Testimony and Darrow's Speech for your Haywood meeting. Just a few left.

Trade" now supplied by the inevitable aggregations of capital known as the Trusts.

This keen Italian makes no mistake. All this outcry against trusts and in favor of National or Municipal Ownership is purely reactionary, truly imperialist and Utopian. Socialism smiles at such vain endeavors and says, let the Trusts go on to their natural end, uninterrupted by petty schemers of Ownership aimed to preserve competition, restore outworn conditions, and save the Middle Class.

(From Daily Papers.)

WAR ON TRUSTS NOT SOCIALISTIC.

Italian Historian Declares Upeaval in America Was Fostered by Jealousy of Middle Class Against Rich.

Paris, Friday, May 21.—Continuing his letters in The Figaro, Signor Guglielmo Ferrero, the Italian historian who recently visited the United States, undertakes to explain today the moral upheaval in America of the last few years against some "methods of high finance." He says that Europe, to comprehend America and the crisis preparing here, should not confound the anti-plutocratic movement with European Socialism. After reviewing the immense sensation caused by the crusade of individual writers and official inquiries and prosecutions into matters of industry and finance, which, he said, have made Europe believe America was a seething caldron of moral corruption, Signor Ferrero insists that a close examination compels a different conclusion. He gives it as his opinion that the anti-plutocratic movement was fostered by the jealousies of the middle class against the rich and that it borrowed many catch-words from Socialism. Its fundamental idea, however, was to prove that America, so often accused of materialism, was still strongly inspired by Puritanical tradition and democratic institutions.

